

## CLAIMS

We Claim:

1. A method of sending a message to a passenger in an airplane, the method comprising the steps of:  
     creating the message using a first communication device;  
     transmitting the message to a messaging router;  
     transmitting from the message router to the passenger through a second communication device a notification that the message is available for receipt by the passenger;  
     requesting receipt of the message by the passenger through the second communication device;  
     transmitting the message from the message router to the second communication device on the airplane; and,  
     receiving the message through the second communication device on the airplane.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the message is a voice message.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the message is a text message.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the message is an HTML file.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the message includes scripts.
6. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of transferring the notification from the messaging router to a central messaging hub before transmitting the notification to the second communication device.
7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of transferring the message from the messaging router to a central messaging hub before transmitting the message to the second communication device.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein the first communication device is a telephone.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein the second communication device is a telephone.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein the first communication device is a computer.
11. The method claim 10 wherein the step of creating the message includes accessing a website.

12. The method claim 11 wherein the message router includes a server which hosts the website.
13. The method of claim 1 wherein notifying the passenger includes scrolling a code for an individual passenger across a display of the second communication device.
14. The method of claim 1 wherein notifying the passenger includes scrolling an individual passenger name across a display of the second communication device.
15. The method of claim 1 wherein requesting receipt of the message includes entering payment information into the second communication device.
16. The method of claim 15 wherein requesting receipt of the message includes swiping a credit card through a slot in the second communication device.
17. The method of claim 1 wherein delivering the message includes locating a specific airplane in route.
18. The method of claim 1 wherein delivering the message includes transmitting the message to a central communication system on the airplane.
19. The method of claim 1 wherein when the message is stored at the message router and the notification is not transmitted to the second communication device until after the plane is in route.
20. The method of claim 19 wherein the notification is sent after a predetermined delay period has elapsed once the plane is in route.
21. A system for notifying a passenger on an airplane of a message, comprising:  
a first communication device for creating a message;  
a message router for receiving the message and for transmitting a notification that there is a message for the passenger to the passenger on the airplane; and,  
a second communication device for receiving the notification on the airplane.
22. The system of claim 21 wherein the message is a voice message.
23. The system of claim 21 wherein the message is a text message.
24. The system of claim 21 wherein the message is an HTML file.
25. The system of claim 21 wherein the message includes scripts.
26. The system of claim 21 wherein the message router receives a request from the second communication device requesting that the message be transmitted to the second communication device.

27. The system of claim 26 wherein the message router transmits the message to the second communication device for receipt by the passenger on the airplane.
28. The system of claim 27 wherein the second communication device receives the message and communicates the message to the passenger on the airplane.
29. The system of claim 27 wherein the notification, the request from the second communication device, and the transmission of the message are all routed through a central messaging hub.
30. The system of claim 27 further comprising the step of transferring the message from the messaging router to a central messaging hub before transmitting the message to the second communication device.
31. The system of claim 21 wherein the first communication device is a telephone.
32. The system of claim 21 wherein the second communication device is a telephone.
33. The system of claim 21 wherein the first communication device is a computer.
34. The system claim 33 wherein the step of creating the message includes accessing a website.
35. The system claim 34 wherein the message router includes a server which hosts the website.
36. The system of claim 21 wherein notifying the passenger includes scrolling a code for an individual passenger across a display of the second communication device.
37. The system of claim 21 wherein notifying the passenger includes scrolling an individual passenger name across a display of the second communication device.
38. The system of claim 21 wherein requesting receipt of the message includes entering payment information into the second communication device.
39. The system of claim 38 wherein requesting receipt of the message includes swiping a credit card through a slot in the second communication device.
40. The system of claim 21 wherein delivering the message includes locating a specific airplane in route.
41. The system of claim 21 wherein delivering the message includes transmitting the message to a central communication system on the airplane.
42. The system of claim 21 wherein when the message is stored at the message router and the notification is not transmitted to the second communication device until after the plane is in route.

43. The system of claim 42 wherein the notification is sent after a predetermined delay period has elapsed once the plane is in route.